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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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J. H. H.
2-28-03

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Etienne DEGAND et al. ART UNIT: 3742
SERIAL NO.: 09/926,519 EXAMINER: John A. Jeffrey
FILING DATE: November 30, 2001
FOR: AUTOMATIC GLAZING PANEL WITH SOLAR CONTROL
 COATING COMPRISING A DATA TRANSMISSION WINDOW

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the outstanding Official Action mailed August 30, 2002, the time for response thereto being extended by virtue of the Petition and extension fees submitted herewith, reconsideration and allowance of all claims now pending is respectfully requested.

REMARKS

Claims 8 and 11-17 are pending in this application. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the thorough search and analysis of the prior art. Reconsideration and allowance are requested based on the following comments.

With respect to the objection to the disclosure, Applicants ask that this be held in abeyance pending indication of allowable subject matter.

Rejection of Claims 8, 11-14 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). This rejection, based upon DE4019703 or FR2737075 is respectfully traversed. The first reference DE4019703 (hereafter DE or DE 703) relates to a heatable glazing panel carrying a coating formed as a sequence of layers (oxide-metal-oxide) over the entire surface which presents continuous characteristics in the horizontal direction but surface resistance gradients in the vertical direction. As a result, the panel may be divided into three portions – the anti-glare portion (10, 30, 50, 60, 70), the transparency portion (6, 26, 46, 56, 66) and the windshield wiper portion (7, 27, 47, 57, 67). The optical and electrical characteristics of each region or portion are optimized according to the respective purpose of each portion. (See, English Derwent